

Society of Wisconsin Week, which will take place the week of September 9–15, 1996.

Frank Mots was a kite flying enthusiast, and it was in his memory that the Kite Society of Milwaukee was created in 1976. The festival that bears his name was founded in 1978 and has drawn people from around the country every year. I invite everyone to celebrate this event on September 14 and take some time out to enjoy the simple pleasures of kite flying. The Frank Mots Memorial Kite Festival has something for everyone, and I am proud of the Kite Society's accomplishments. ●

JEANNE O. BUSSE—THE MARCH OF DIMES' 1996 ALEXANDER MACOMB CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, on September 25, 1996, the March of Dimes will honor community activist Jeanne O. Busse as its 1996 Alexander Macomb Citizen of the Year. Established in 1984, this award is presented annually to "deserving individuals who have demonstrated outstanding contributions and commitment to improving the quality of life in his/her community, the county, and the State of Michigan."

As a community servant, Jeanne Busse has fulfilled this criteria and then some. The litany of positions Mrs. Busse has held over the years is surpassed only by the list of awards that have been showered upon her. Her years of commitment to her church, St. Anne Parish in Warren, includes a stint as president of the Council of Catholic Women for the Archdiocese of Detroit. Her involvement with the Boy and Girl Scouts of America spans more than six decades, and just a small sample of the other civic organizations in which she has served include the United Community Services, Warren Friends of the Public Library, Michigan Cultural Commission, and the Warren Consolidated Schools Board of Education.

Mrs. Busse's exceptional good deeds have garnered her recognition as the Warren Jaycees Woman of the Year and the Macomb County Council for the Arts Volunteer of the Year. Some of her other awards include: the Council of Catholic Women/Archdiocese of Detroit Beatrice Zilly Award, the Warren Consolidated Schools Honorary Scholastic Letter Award, the United Community Services Tracey McGregor Volunteer Award, and the James Coughlin Award for Service to Scouting, to name just a few. In addition, "For Service to the Citizens of Warren, Michigan," Busse Park has been established and named in her honor.

For her selfless commitment to her fellow citizens Jeanne Busse is more than deserving of the accolades that come her way. I salute her for her public service, and applaud the March of Dimes for choosing such a deserving figure on whom to bestow this honor. ●

THE NEWBORNS AND MOTHERS HEALTH PROTECTION ACT

● Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, yesterday, by unanimous vote, the Senate passed the Newborns and Mothers Health Protection Act as an amendment to the VA-HUD appropriations bill. There is no more important issue before this Congress than the health of mothers and their newborns, and so I applaud the Senate. This amendment is vital. I want to express my pride in being a cosponsor, and my thanks to Senator BRADLEY and Senator FRIST for all of their hard work.

This amendment will require health insurers to allow moms and their newborns to stay in the hospital for a minimum of 48 hours after a normal delivery and 96 hours after a cesarean section, unless the mother and her attending health care provider decide a shorter stay is in the child's best interest.

I sent a letter, along with Senator SNOWE of Maine, to Senator Dole back on May 1 of this year, asking for a vote on this bill. That letter was signed by all the women Senators, from both parties. I am glad we have finally had a debate and approved this language.

This amendment has many cosponsors from both sides of the aisle, and has the support of numerous organizations from around the country. These organizations represent the broad range of health care providers that work with mothers, newborns, and the full range of their health concerns. There are experts from every corner of the country who will attest to the importance of this amendment, and as Senator BRADLEY has noted, more than 80,000 Americans have sent in letters asking us to pass this legislation, because they know it can mean the difference between life and death for a loved one.

Protecting mothers and their infants is the right thing to do, and is overdue. Many States already provide these protections, and hospitals such as Tacoma General in my State are already allowing these decisions to be made by the mother and her care provider, which is the way it should be.

We know from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that hospital stays for new mothers decreased by almost half between 1970 and 1992—from 3.9 days to 2.1 days. We know the length of stay has continued to decrease, and is now about 24 hours after normal delivery. We know there can be serious health complications within the first 48 hours even after a normal delivery. Most important, we know these decisions should be in the hands of the mother and her attending health care provider.

I am glad the Senate has taken this action, and I think it is a good first step toward improving the health of infants and other children in this country.

We need to give all newborns every advantage possible. In my mind, a healthy start on life is a good start on life. ●

EXPANSION OF THE FARMINGTON FAMILY YMCA

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today to commemorate the grand opening on October 12, 1996, of the expanded Farmington Family YMCA. On this day, an organization with a record of community service spanning more than three decades will open the doors of a new 15,000 square foot facility to the families of Novi, West Bloomfield, Farmington, and Farmington Hills.

Chartered in 1965, the Farmington Area YMCA has over 4,200 members and more than 30,000 users annually. The completed expansion, for which all construction funds were raised privately, includes a second swimming pool to service physically challenged individuals. The new facility is also better equipped to aid the rehabilitation efforts of patients participating in an existing partnership program with Providence, Botsford General, and Sinai Hospitals.

This institution can truly be characterized as a family serving YMCA. While it currently provides all latchkey programs for students in the Farmington and Farmington Hills school districts, the YMCA can now offer greater babysitting and child care services in addition to a special "Kids Zone." Not only will families benefit from the expansion; the State of Michigan recently awarded the city of Farmington Hills a special grant to initiate a collaborative program with the YMCA and the Farmington public schools to serve the needs of young teens to assist in a community wide effort to prevent juvenile delinquency.

Finally, while expanding the physical structure provides the space to implement these programs, without the dedication of the exceptional volunteers involved with the YMCA, the completion of this ambitious project would have been impossible. Their efforts truly are commendable, and on this upcoming October 12 I salute these community servants and congratulate the families of the Farmington area on the many years of enjoyment they will receive from their expanded YMCA. ●

TRIBUTE TO THE CHEMICAL MORTAR BATTALION OF THE 3D ARMY

● Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, I want to take a moment to pay tribute to a group of very special people. During the last weekend in this month of September, the 91st Chemical Mortar Battalion of the 3d Army will be celebrating their 51st reunion in the fine town of Wheeling in my State of West Virginia. These men gather each year in their respective States to celebrate their outstanding efforts in the Second World War.

While this Nation has many fine heroes from those years, these men are very unique because they are part of the Allied Forces who served under